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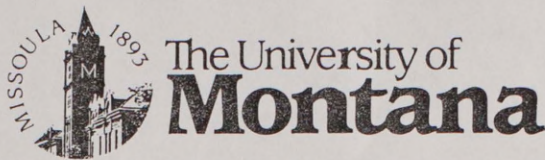
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NEWS RELEASE

April 15, 2005

Contact: Michelle Shaughnessey, UM President's Office, (406) 243-4594.

LECTURE EXAMINES WAR IN IRAQ

MISSOULA--

University of Chicago political science Professor John Mearsheimer says the United States is doomed to fail in Iraq. He will discuss the reasons in the next installment of the President's Lecture Series Monday, April 25, at The University of Montana.

"Why the U.S. Was Doomed to Fail in Iraq" will begin at 8 p.m. in the University Theatre. Mearsheimer will discuss how Iraqi nationalism guaranteed that U.S. troops would quickly go from liberators to occupiers, inciting an insurgency that would be almost impossible to defeat. The lecture is free and open to the public

As the Lucile E. Speer Memorial Lecture, the event honors the former documents librarian who retired in 1968 after 40 years at the University. Speers was a delegate to the 1972 Montana Constitutional Convention and was awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters from UM in 1977. She died in 1987.

Mearsheimer also will give an afternoon seminar, in conjunction with the Philosophy Forum, at 3:10 p.m. the same day in Gallagher Building Room 123. The lecture is titled "Lying in International Politics."

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He is the R. Wendell Harrison Distinguished Service Professor of Political Science and co-director of the Program on International Security Policy at the University of Chicago, where he has taught since 1982.

Mearsheimer has written extensively about security issues and international politics. He has published three books -- two of which won prizes -- and many articles that have appeared in academic journals and popular magazines. He also has written a number of op-ed pieces for the New York Times on topics such as Bosnia, nuclear proliferation, American policy towards India and the failure of Arab-Israeli peace efforts.

He graduated from West Point in 1970 before serving five years as an officer in the U.S. Air Force. He earned a doctoral degree in political science at Cornell University in 1980. In 1998 he was the Whitney H. Shepardson Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York. He was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2003.

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